

SAFE ROADWAYS COMMITTEE

Takoma Park, Maryland

Meeting Minutes

The City of Takoma Park Safe Roadways Committee met on Thursday, January 13, 2005 in the Municipal Building, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland.

Members Present: Greg Castano, Michael Goodno, Katherine Kelly, Laurie Kelly, Larry Rubin, Susan Solarz, Steve Moody, Suzanna Banwell

Members Absent: Robert Patten

Staff Present: Ilona Blanchard, Associate Planner

Others Present: None

1. Call To Order

Greg Castano called the meeting to order at 6:40.

2. Approval of Minutes

Adopted November 18, 2004 Meeting Minutes

3. Announcements / Updates

- Greg reviewed new meeting strategy for increased efficiency.
- Katherine updated us on the Ward 2 meeting about the Community Center.
- Susan described the Hillwood Manor Residents Association meeting in Ward 6.
- Greg reminded us that if we have upcoming meetings to share with him we should email them to him prior to our meetings.
- Mike offered to write a letter re: MNCPPC Connectors.
- Larry and Katherine offered to draft a statement advising the City Council for action on the ICC.
- Ilona reported on her interaction with attendees of the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting in DC and indicated there may be funds available to us in the future under safety funding from SHA.

4. Action Items

Larry described correspondence from the Piney Branch Elementary School Principal and the PTA President to the City Manager re: concerns about the pedestrian access to the elementary school and then also discussed traffic problems that have occurred recently as well as related discussions on the neighborhood listserve. There have been regular incidents in which pedestrians have been injured by cars near the municipal building. In an earlier report, the State said that data didn't reveal worrisome traffic volumes whereas citizens were petitioning for a stop sign. Larry asked us to read the information he provided and we all agreed to get back to him with our thoughts on the problem.

Greg created a subcommittee of Larry and Suzanna to draft a letter to the City Council to be sent by the Committee in response to the letter and recent incidents. The letter would be reviewed via e-mail.

Greg created a subcommittee to clarify the project matrix: Susan, Steve, Suzanna and Katherine. Subcommittee will report back at the next meeting.

5. Status Reports

Erwin Mack visited to describe his work with Takoma/Langley Crossroads Development Authority. Among the information he shared with us was that there have been 8 deaths in 3 years, 100% of them Hispanic, at University and New Hampshire intersection. The intersection also has the largest number of pedestrians and most bus-riders in MD. Erwin told us that there is a local Spanish-speaking radio station on which we could advertise information. He mentioned the planned transit center at Taco Bell.

Ilona briefed us on the Carroll Ave and Laurel Ave Streetscape Project.

Q: Will bumpouts exacerbate traffic problems?

A: It is SHA policy that in the area where on street-parking is allowed then bumpouts are allowed, this way they do not interfere with snowplowing or change the traffic flow.

Q: Will there be a traffic signal added at Tulip and Carroll?

A: Not in this plan, but could be requested in future.

Q: How will alternate roads be chosen during construction?

A: Theoretically, there will be 10' travel lanes; likely to be delays only when a truck is backing up, etc. (No alternate routes).

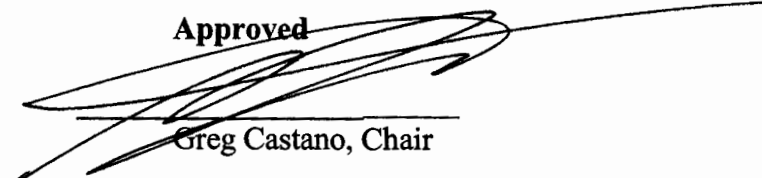
Q: Will bollards be removable?

A: Yes.

6. Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted


Susan Solarz

Approved

Greg Castano, Chair